(c) Inclusion of remaining districts will depend on the available potential in the districts and the progress in the ongoing districts.

Report of Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Director, IGDRI

†547. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a report of an expert group set up under the chairmanship of the Director of Indira Gandhi Development Reserch Institute;

(b) if so, the recommendations thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government on the recommendations of the expert group; and

(d) the States wherein National Food Security Mission and Additional Central Aid Scheme/ Schemes have been implemented togetherwith results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Expert Group constituted by the Government of India under the Chairmanship of Prof. R. Radhakrishna, Director, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai to look into the problem of agricultural indebtedness has submitted its report to the Government. Details of its major recommendations are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below). The Government has initiated the process of consultation on the recommendations made by the Expert Group.

(d) The National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is in operation in 16 States of the country. The NFSM-Rice is implemented in 12 States *i.e.*, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal; NFSM-Wheat in 9 States *viz.*, Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Gujarat; and NFSM-Pulses in 14 States *i.e.*, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

The Government has formulated an Additonal Central Assistance (ACA) Scheme, namely, the "Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)" with an envisaged allocatiion of Rs. 25,000 crore during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The States would be eligible to access the ACA for taking up schemes in agriculture and allied sectors under RKVY scheme provided they prepare District and State Agriculture Plans and ensure that baseline share of expenditure of agriculture and allied sectors in the States plan expenditure is at least maintained. The ACA would be made available to the State as 100% grant.

As both the schemes, *viz*; NFSM and RKVY have ben launched recently, it will take sometime to get the results of their implementation.

Statement

Details of the major recommendations of the Expert Group

The Report of the Expert Group focuses on institutions and instruments that would strengthen the credit delivery mechanism for the farm community in particular and for rural India in general. While doing so, it takes cognizance of the imperatives of addressing the credit absorption and demand-side issues. Policy interventions and institutional reforms

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

essential for resolving the farm crisis, which go beyond the credit delivery system, also form part of this Report.In the long-term interest of the financial system, a positive repayment culture for bank loans deserves to be actively promoted.

The Report recommend as under:—

1. **Immediate Credit Measures include:**

Implementation of the Prime Minister's Relief Package: The needs of individual households should be taken into account with necessary flexibility. Rescheduling of loan of farmers affected by natural calamities. Credit for Rainfed Areas; Formalisation of informal credit; Inclusion of financially excluded; Project-Based Lending.

2. **Financial Architecture include:**

Agency and Mobile Banking; System of Bharat Kisan Credit Card; Reforming Lead Bank Scheme; Credit Counseling for Farmers; Simplifying the Procedure for Mortgages; Simplifying Procedure to Reduce Transaction Costs; Computerization of Records; Integration of Micro Finance Institutions with the Mainstream Banking; Improved Deployment of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF).

3. **Institutional Architecture include:**

Federations of Farmers-Self Help Groups (SHGs).

4. **Risk Mitigation Measures include :**

Crop Insurance; Weather Insurance; Price Risk Mitigation; Variable Tariff; Crop Surveillance; Mitigating Risks from Spurious Inputs; Strengthening of Research and Extension Services.

5. **Other Measures include :**

Expanding Livelihood Base and Rural Health Facilities.

Hike in price of milk in Delhi

†548. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in Delhi, Mother Dairy and other companies have effected hike in price of milk in October, 2007;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) to what extent Delhi's Mother Dairy and other companies were making profit per litre of milk before this price-rise; and

(d) whether his Ministry has enquired about it from these profit making companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Mother Dairy and Delhi Milk Scheme have effected hike in sale price of milk by Re.1/ per litre in October, 2007 as a result of similar hike in procurement price of milk. Other suppliers including Amul have also reportedly, done the same. Mother Dairy, Delhi has informed that they incurred losses during 2006 and 2007 and first half of 2007-08 and are not earning profit. DMS is also not earning any profit on sale of milk.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) to (c) above.

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